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Applicant: R. Imanaka
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: Art Unit: 2611

: Examiner: C. Grant

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the reference listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed reference is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

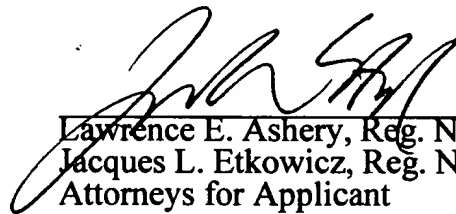
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing of the above-referenced application. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. Accordingly, the required certification (as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)) is provided herewith.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, an attorney registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designed in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures:

PTO Form 1449

Copy of (1) Reference

Dated: March 11, 2002

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
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